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Subject: EOC Spot Report - West Fertilizer Plant Explosion Update #5
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**EOC Spot Report – Update 5
West Fertilizer Plant Explosion**

This report is being sent as a Bcc to prevent accidental reply-all messages.

US Environmental Protection Agency

Report as of 1430 EST April 23, 2013

Overview: On April 17, a fire and explosion at the West Fertilizer plant decimated the town of West, Texas, north of Waco, causing multiple injuries and fatalities. The explosion shock wave caused multiple fires within a six block radius. Several homes and structures including an apartment building, nursing home and middle school were severely impacted. The plant was destroyed, with the exception of four "bullet" tanks.

State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions: Multiple agencies are engaged in public safety activities at the site. The Chemical Safety Board (CSB) and the Bureau of Alcohol Firearms and Tobacco (ATF) are conducting investigations. Contractors for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) are conducting air monitoring around the site perimeter. TCEQ representatives will assist ATF agents and contractors during debris assessment and excavation activities.

EPA Actions: Region 6 currently has deployed at the site: 3 OSCs, 1 PIO, 6 START contractors and the Mobile Command Post (MCP).

EPA continues air monitoring activities with two stationary sites near the facility and one mobile monitoring team in the neighborhoods west of the facility. Twenty-four hour air monitoring activities have been scaled back to daylight operations only. EPA will continue monitoring for the same parameters which include volatile organic compounds, ammonia, carbon monoxide, and lower explosive limit of methane gas. No air monitoring readings above background were detected during today's operations.

EPA attended a meeting today of all federal agencies with the FEMA Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO). EPA continues to coordinate with ATF, OSHA, CSB, TCEQ, and the Office of the Texas State Chemist on current and future site operations.

Media Interest: HIGH

The HQ EOC is closely monitoring this incident and will provide more updates as necessary.